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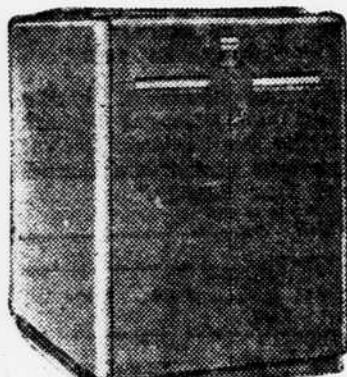
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NEWARK, N. J.—BATTLE OF WORDS—Federal Judge Thomas F. Meaney (center), yesterday approved the armistice between the salvage firm of Lipsett, Inc., of New York and the City of Newark on scrapping the battleship New Mexico in Newark Bay, opposed by the city. Present were (left to right) Charles Milton and John Manning, company attorneys, and City Counsel Thomas Parsonnet. (Story on Page A-1.) —AP Wirephoto.

## Dewey

(Continued From First Page.)

until April and for thirty days after adjournment the governor will be busy passing on a raft of legislation. They point out that he would not have time to go into a State to campaign for delegates.

Notwithstanding the reported increase in sentiment for Senator Taft—since his swing through the West in September and October—and the intensive drive which Mr. Stassen is now putting on, the Dewey forces retain great confidence that the New York Governor will enter the 1948 national convention as the leading contender for the nomination.

Many Surprises Predicted. They are not disclosing their hand or making detailed estimates of the delegate strength which they expect Gov. Dewey to have at that time. But they insist that there will be many surprises in store for the other candidates when the ballot taking gets under way in the convention.

The need of selecting a Republican presidential nominee who is a strong vote getter, and also one who is capable of carrying pivotal New York State, has become more than ever apparent, the Dewey forces maintain, since the elections November 4 when the Republicans lost the governorship of Kentucky and met defeat in many of municipal elections throughout the country.

In that same election, while the Republicans were able to fill vacancies in the House from Indiana and Ohio, their margin of victory was materially curtailed as compared to their margins in those districts in 1946. All of this, they insist, points up the desirability of nominating Gov. Dewey, who was re-elected New York Governor with a lead of 680,000 votes last year.

Gov. Dewey's personal strength in New York is far greater than that of any of the other Republican candidates for the presidential nomination, they insist. Indeed, they say recent elections point up their contention that Gov. Dewey has a strong grip on the affection of the New York voters. For in 1946, he carried Queens County by 150,000 and in the election November 4 Queens County elected a Democrat for district attorney with a plurality of 120,000 votes.

Attacks Called Propaganda.

The shafts aimed at Gov. Dewey by Senator Taft and Mr. Stassen on the ground that the New Yorker has failed to discuss important issues of the day, the Dewey supporters discount as mere propaganda by two presidential aspirants who have been out on the stump early in the game. Further, they contend that Gov. Dewey's stand on the most important questions of the day has been disclosed. For example, it is well understood that Gov. Dewey considers the Taft-Hartley Labor Act a good law, although it eventually may require amendment.

Actually, Gov. Dewey took the lead in bringing about amendments to the New York labor laws governing some of the important features of the Taft-Hartley law. For example, authorizing employers to call for elections in their plants and to talk with their employees. He also put through a law outlawing strikes by government employees.

Gov. Dewey has come out strongly for universal military training, which Senator Taft has opposed. He has endorsed foreign aid. Further, during his administration as New York Governor, Gov. Dewey has spoken on and dealt with most of the domestic problems of the day. Also in 1944, he stumped the country as a presidential candidate dealing with many of the issues which are still problems today. It is idle, therefore, the Dewey men claim, for any one to argue that Gov. Dewey's views on public questions are not known and have not been discussed by him.

Will Have Chance to Speak.

During the next few months, Gov. Dewey will have opportunity to speak publicly on many issues. He has a speaking engagement in Manchester, N. H., this week. On the same day he will be a luncheon guest of the Governor of the State in Concord. This is the State in which Mr. Stassen has announced he will enter a slate of delegates next year. New Hampshire Republican leaders say, however, that Gov. Dewey still retains the inside track there for the nomination.

In the Dewey camp the drive to nominate Gen. Eisenhower is being watched carefully. Gov. Dewey suffered from the eleventh-hour candidacy of the late Wendell L. Willkie in the 1940 Republican National Convention. However, the Dewey supporters do not regard the Eisenhower boom, they say, as a major threat to the Governor's chances next year. One of them suggested that, since Gen. Eisenhower never has announced whether he is a Republican or a Democrat, the general may wind up as a vice-presidential nominee to run with President Truman.

The announcement of Gov. Warren that he will be a candidate has brought no comment from Gov. Dewey. He and the California Governor have been friendly in the past—although Gov. Warren refused a vice-presidential nomination in 1944. What the Dewey leaders hope and expect is that many of the West Coast delegates to the national convention, after having given Gov. Warren a first ballot vote will shift to the New Yorker, who has strong supporters in that section.

## Catholic Bishops Blame Plight Of World on Reds, Secularists

Standing on the brink of chaos, the world owes its predicament today to a combination of Communism and secularism, the Catholic Bishops of the United States said in a statement last night.

The prelates appealed for an awareness of man's responsibility to God, denouncing secularism, or the practical exclusion of God from human thinking and living, as "the root of the world's travail today."

In the statement concluding their annual meeting here, the bishops decried secularism for "giving our country the greatest divorce problem in the western world," for excluding God from the common schools, for producing untalented youth, for creating the most insidious hindrance to world reconstruction.

Hope for Peace Reduced. "There would be more hope for a just and lasting peace if the leaders of the nations were really convinced that secularism which disregards God, as well as militant atheism which utterly denies Him, offers no sound basis for stable international agreements, for enduring respect for human rights, or for freedom under law," the statement said.

In a day when "shocking crimes" against weak nations are being perpetrated in the name of national security, the international community is flouting more openly than ever before in the Christian centuries the natural law which calls to God, its author, and derives from Him its sanctions, the bishops said.

"Atheistic Communism... stands out plainly today as the force which, through violence and chicanery, is obstructing the establishment of a right juridical order in the international community," the statement continued. "But thoughtful men perceive as well that secularism, which over the years has sapped the divinely laid foundations of the moral law, bears a heavy burden of responsibility for the plight of the world today."

Economics Discussed. Dealing with the economic problem that "loom large in the social and confusion of our times," the statement said:

"The Christian view of economic life supports the demand for organization of management, labor, agriculture and profession under government encouragement but not control, in joint effort to avoid social conflict and to promote co-operation for the common good.

"In the extreme case, where Marxian communism takes over government, it abolishes private ownership and sets up a totalitarian State capitalism, which is even more intolerable than the grave evils it pretends to cure. Surely it ought to be plain today that there is no remedy for our economic evils in a return either to 19th century individualism or to experiments in Marxianism."

Secularism Is Denounced. Speaking of secularism and its effect on the family, the bishops stated:

"God planned the human family and gave it its basic constitution. When secularism discards that plan and constitution it lacerates the whole social fabric.

"Artificial family planning on the basis of contraceptive immorality, cynical disregard of the noble purposes of sex, a 60-fold increase in our divorce rate during the past century, and widespread failure of the family to discharge its educational functions are terrible evils which secularism has brought to our country."

The prelates said they were convinced little will be done about curing the evils of juvenile delinquency until we learn the havoc that secularism has wrought in the family.

"In vain shall we spend public monies in vast amounts for educational and recreational activities if we do not give more thought to the divinely ordained stability of the family and the sanctity of the home," they added.

Public Policy Expected. Secularists have exploited the public policy adopted a century ago of banning the formal teaching of religion in the common schools, the statement continued.

"But it should ever be kept in mind that the original proponents of the policy did not intend to minimize the importance of religion in the training of youth," it said, pointing out the problem confronting public authority in a Nation of divided religious allegiance.

"Erroneously, however, secularists take this policy, adopted as a practical expedient in difficult circumstances and make it the starting point in their philosophy of education. They positively exclude God from the schools."

"In the rearing of children and the forming of youth, omission is as effective as positive statement. A philosophy of education which omits God necessarily draws a plan of life in which God either has no place or is a strictly private concern of men."

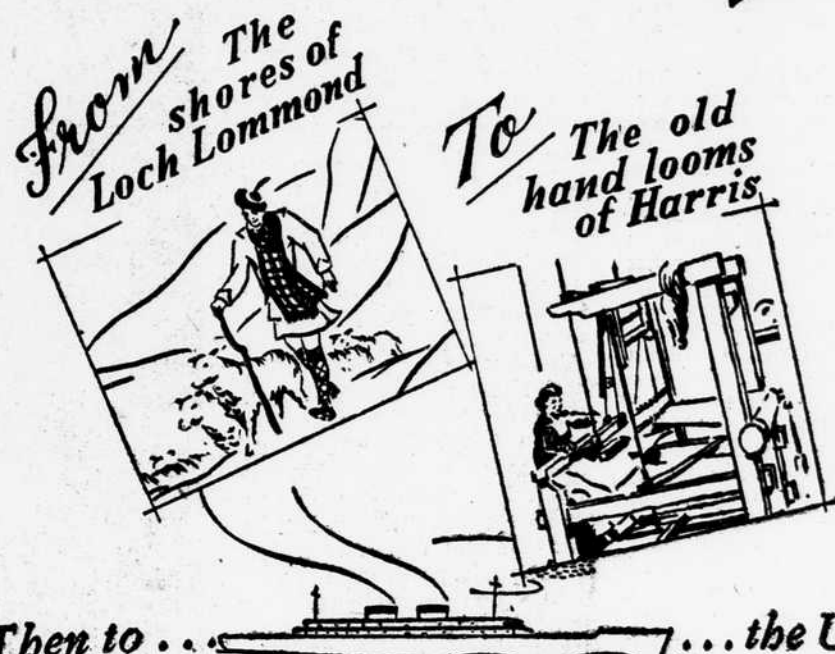
Sense of Sin Seen Lost. The bishops said the "greatest moral catastrophe of our age is the growing number of Christians who lack a sense of sin because personal responsibility to God is not a moving force in their lives."

Secularists, they said, for the most part do not deny God, but they "fail to bring an awareness of their responsibility to God into their thought and action as individuals and members of society."

"The tragic evils is not that our Christian culture is no longer capable of producing peace and reasonable property, but that we are allowing secularism to divorce Christian truth from life," the bishops concluded.

The statement was issued on behalf of all American Catholic bishops by the administrative board of the National Catholic Welfare Conference. It was signed by Cardinals Dougherty of Philadelphia, Mooney of Detroit, Stritch of Chicago and Spellman of New York; Archbishops McNicholas of Cincinnati, Lucey of San Antonio, Cushing of Boston, Ritter of St. Louis and Ryan of Omaha, and Bishops Gannon of Erie, Pa., Noll of Fort Wayne, Ind., Walsh of Charleston, S. C., Alter of Toledo and Ready of Columbus, Ohio.

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